Prohibition was introduced long, long ago and things have settled down, and the present Opposition is unsettling everything."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Is the Hon. the Chief Minister aware that yesterday and to-day certain people waited in deputation on him about this question? It is not an old matter, it is a pending matter, it is a very serious matter."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is an old matter, but the deputation came through the Opposition Members yesterday." (Laughter.)

Payment of salary to the menial staff of Ranee's Girls' High School, Pudukkottai.

* 268 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state when the salary of each month is paid to the menial staff of the Ranee's Girls' High School, Pudukkottai, Tiruchirappalli Division, and whether there is inordinate delay in such payment?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" The wages are normally disbursed before the 15th of each month. There was some delay in the payment of wages to the menial staff in August 1952. The delay was for about a fortnight and was due to the delay in the receipt of the bill with the countersignature of Inspectress."

Honorary bench courts.

* 269 *Q.*—SRI G. RAMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether there is any proposal with the Government to abolish the honorary bench courts in the State?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" No such proposal is now under consideration of Government."

SRI G. RAMA RAO :—" అధ్యక్షా, అనేక చోట్ల బెంచి మేజిస్ట్రేట్లుగా ఉన్నవారిలో రాజకీయ పార్టీలకు సంబంధించినవారు కూడా ఉన్నారు. అందులో ముఖ్యంగా కాంగ్రెసు పార్టీవారు, పెద్దపెద్ద bosses అనిపించుకునేవారు కూడా బెంచి మేజిస్ట్రేటుగా వున్నందున చాలా అన్యాయం జరుగుచున్నది. అందువల్ల యీ రాజకీయ పార్టీలలోని వారు బెంచి మేజిస్ట్రేట్లుగా ఉండవచ్చునా? అటువంటివారు ఉండడముచేత కేసులలో అన్యాయాలు జరుగుతూఉన్నందున యీ honorary bench courts తక్షణం తీస్తారా ?"

SRI V. SRI KRISHNA :—"గుంటూరు జిల్లాలోని Bar Association నుంచి యీ Honorary Bench Courts ను abolish చేయమని resolution పంపారు. ఇంకను యీ కేసుల విషయములలో యీ Magistrates outside influences లకు లోబడడమువల్ల వారి యిచ్చే తీర్పులలో న్యాయమైన తీర్పులు ప్రజలు గౌరవించదగిన తీర్పులు యివ్వలేకుండా పోతున్నారు. ఇట్లా చేయడమువల్ల ఒక స్వల్పమైన కేసు కుమారు పదకొండు మాసాల వరకు జరిపారు. స్వల్ప కేసులలో కూడా

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influence చేయడం జరుగుచున్నందున, ప్రభుత్వము ప్రజలకు అన్యాయపు తీర్పులు యిచ్చే టువంటి యీ **courts** ను తక్షణ తీసివేసి అయినను, లేక **influences** కు లోబడకుండా చేసి రక్షణ యిస్తారా అని అడుగుచున్నాను.''

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" A separate question may be given notice of."

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER:—" In view of the fact that provision has been made in the Village Panchayats Act of 1950, giving the panchayats powers to try criminal cases arising within their jurisdiction, do the Government find it necessary to retain these Bench Courts?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" The Government will consider the question after the Panchayat Courts begin to function all over the State. Till then, the present system has to continue."

SRI C. RAJAM RAMASAMI:—" May I know whether Special Honorary Presidency Magistrates are presiding over Bench Courts in Madras City and, if so, the powers that are vested in them?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" A separate question may be given notice of."

Construction of a dam near Sulankurichi, South Arcot district.

* 270 *Q.*—SRI V. T. ELAYA PILLAY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the stage at which the work relating to the proposed construction of a dam near Sulankurichi, South Arcot district, is?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" The Scheme has not been taken up as it is uneconomic and not feasible. The Chief Engineer has however been instructed to examine whether the scheme could be modified so that it could be executed at less cost with the prospect of a reasonable yield of food grains."

Government Harijan Hostel at Masulipatnam.

* 271 *Q.*—SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether students are admitted into the Government Harijan Hostel at Masulipatnam on a districtwar basis or on merit;

(*b*) whether the honorary correspondent of the hostel who is also the headmaster of the Government High School is paid any special honorarium;

(*c*) if so, at what rate; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to convert the Government Depressed Classes Hostel into purely a College hostel admitting students from all Telugu districts?